

GETHSEMANE MISSION WELCOMES ALL

JANUARY 31—EPIPHANY 4

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; St. Luke 4:21-30

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRY

Gethsemane Lutheran has a historical commitment to neighborhood ministry. In planning the expansion in the late 1970's, part of the goal was to offer a place for neighborhood youth and adults to play basketball as well as having meetings in the Gethsemane facilities. This commitment has been lived out with a number of organizations and neighborhood youth meeting and playing. Most recently, **Pastor Karl Gronberg** has been involved with neighbors in organizing **Georgian Acres Neighborhood Association**. The *Conversations with Pastor* Midweek Connections Class has visited with **Rodney Thrailkill**, a GANA officer. Saturday, January 30th, 11 a.m. GANA will hold their meeting in the Gethsemane Music Room. Gethsemane members interested in knowing more about this ministry are invited to visit with Pastor. GANA will hold a group trash cleanup "along Georgian Drive" Saturday, February 13, 9 a.m. GANA Vision Statement: "To Foster a Beautiful, Connected, Safe and Empowered Neighborhood." Gethsemane Lutheran will be part of the process as this neighborhood lives out this vision. Watch the Sunday worship bulletin insert for more information. Gethsemane ministers to the neighborhood.

MISSION TO ALL PEOPLE

The Gethsemane Mission Statement expresses the ministry of the community: "Called by grace, led by faith, welcoming all to share God's love" The **Epiphany Season** proclamation is clear: "All are welcome—God shows no partiality" Gethsemane, Austin a congregation of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America** has a history of being open to all people. **January 31st** is designated by **Reconciling Works**, (formerly Lutherans Concerned/North America) the ecumenical community and Gethsemane Lutheran as *Welcoming Sunday*. With other **Reconciling Communities** in the Greater Austin area and throughout the nation, this Sunday gives emphasis to the **Epiphany mission** of showing "no partiality" but joyfully welcoming all persons regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity to share in the life of the **baptized people of God**. Gethsemane has been a *reconciling congregational community* since January 14, 2007 extending a greeting of welcome to all as **beloved children of God**. "God is my light and salvation! Whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27)

ADULT SCS CLASS

Tahmina Khanam, Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry teacher will be guest in the Adult SCS. She is a native of Bangladesh. She is a member of the Islamic community. The class meets Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Join us **January 31st, 7:30pm**, **Torchy's Tacos** (off 51st & Berkman). Come for a cold drink, fellowship and casual faith conversation. Just look for a table tent with Martin Luther holding a beer mug...that'll be us! This event is open to anyone regardless of church membership or faith affiliation, so please invite your friends! Cheers!

GLCM NEWS

February is **Dental Health Month** and **American Heart Month**. Dental professionals will visit the children to talk about the importance of dental hygiene. Health care professionals will also visit the children to discuss healthy bodies, healthy eating and healthy hearts throughout the month. The children look forward to celebrating the **Chinese New Year, Monday, February 8th** and their **Valentine's Day parties, Friday, February 12th**. GLCM will be closed on **Monday, February 15th**. Save the date...**Sunday, May 1, 2016** for the GLCM annual Golf Tournament at Star Ranch Golf Course.

FEBRUARY 7—EPIPHANY 5

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; St. Luke 9:28-43a

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ELCA COLLEGES CHOIR CONCERTS

The **Gustavus Adolphus College Choir** in St. Peter, Minnesota, a college of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**, offers a concert **Monday, Feb. 1st, 7 pm, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1500 W. Anderson Lane**. The 60 member choir enjoys an enviable reputation for excellence in performance and artistic interpretation of the finest choral literature. A free will offering will be taken, and there will be a reception following the concert. The **St. Olaf Choir** in Northfield, Minnesota, a college of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**, offers a concert **Saturday, February 6th, 7:30pm, St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th Street**. The concert program will consist of a wide variety of contrasting sacred and secular repertoire of the highest caliber. Gethsemane members are encouraged to attend one or both of these concerts experiencing the rich music heritage of **Lutheran colleges and universities**.

SENIOR FEST

The **2016 Senior Fest**, "Thriving in a Changing World," will be held at **St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin, February 6th**. Jesus said, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Does your changing life seem to be diminishing and you struggle to adjust to changes? "Thriving in a Changing World" offers a day of hope, help and encouragement among friends, food and faith. Registration is \$25 or \$30 after January 31. For information, contact Peggy Ogden-Howe, (512) 943-0312 or peggy.ogdenhowe@gmail.com.

"SOUPER" BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 7th. Together we can tackle hunger! Gethsemane youth continue the annual tradition of collecting donations on Super Bowl Sunday for the "Souper Bowl" of caring event. Offerings collected following both services will benefit the Gethsemane Food Pantry. Please show your support for this important service with your generous donation on "Souper Bowl Sunday".

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Gethsemane Lutheran congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, Feb. 7th**, during the 9:30 am Learning Hour. The Global mission outreach of Gethsemane will be highlighted.

SUPER BOWL PARTY

David & Cindy Doerfler host their annual Super Bowl party, **Sunday Feb. 7th, 2pm**. Game time, 5:30pm. All are welcome!

SHROVE TUESDAY

Gethsemane traditional **Pancake Supper Feb. 9, 5:30-7:00 PM**. Pancakes and sausage provided by **Men in Mission**. Tickets on sale in Narthex on Sundays, January 31 and February 7: \$6.00 per person and \$2.00 for children under 10. Proceeds benefit Gethsemane and community service projects. Signup sheet for helpers on Men in Mission Bulletin Board. Come for fellowship and feast in preparation for "the Lenten fast."

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Season of Lent commences **Ash Wednesday, February 10** with the Christian faithful receiving ashes and meditating at the Gethsemane altar 7-8am, 11:30am to noon and 5:30-7pm. Ash Wednesday Eucharist 12 noon and 7pm.

LOIRE GREETINGS

Annie Loire, Jacque Loire, Bruno Loire hosted **Sharon Gronberg, Kristen Gronberg Etheredge, Miriam Etheredge** on their recent visit to Paris and Chartes, France. The **Gabriel Loire family** extended special greetings to **Ron Tigue**, chairperson of the Gethsemane Stained Glass Window expansion and members of the SGWC Committee.

FEBRUARY 14—LENT 1

WORLD HUNGER APPEAL/FAIR TRADE

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; St. Luke 4:1-13

PRAYER OF THE DAY: O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC MINISTRY

Gethsemane Lutheran welcomes back a long time friend **Dave Anderson** to worship on Sunday, February 14th. **Dave** and **Pastor Karl Gronberg** have known each other since 1963 when Dave established **Lutheran Youth Encounter**. He and his wife Barb had a music ministry from 1974-2010. During that time they sang at Gethsemane. Dave is teamed with **Roger Walck** a skilled vocalist, guitarist and worship team leader. They will present music during the 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. liturgies.

VALENTINES DAY LUNCHEON

Gethsemane members are invited to a **Valentine's Day luncheon, Sunday, February 14th** following the 10:30 liturgy. Their will be special music and recognition of those celebrating significant wedding anniversaries in 2016. Come and enjoy the food, fellowship and fun. Sign up this Sunday.

LENT MIDWEEK SOUP/ WORSHIP

Beginning **Wednesday, February 17th 11:00 a.m.** the Adult Bible Study with **Pastor Schnelle** in the **Steffans Parlor**. Wednesdays in Lent: Eucharist 12 noon & 7 p.m. soup meals 5:30 p.m. prepared by **Viola Hall** and **Timothy Huston**. Confirmants meet with Pastor Susie and mentors following Lenten worship.

MEN-IN-MISSION MTG/TOUR

Men in Mission will visit **Center for Water Resources/JJ Pickle Research Campus** on Thursday, **February 18**, to learn about the innovative flood warning and water management project led by Gethsemane members **Dr. David Maidment** and **Harry Evans**. This was featured in American-Statesman front page article in November. Tour departs 10:00 AM. Coffee, donuts, fellowship, 9:00 AM Music Room. Sign up Men in Mission Bulletin Board.

TEXAS LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

"FRONT ROW WITH VERNE LUNDQUIST"

Tuesday, February 23rd, Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio. This annual event hosted by Hall of Fame nationally recognized CBS sports broadcaster **Verne Lundquist** is a gift to his alma mater **Texas Lutheran University**. Verne's guest will be **Charles Barkley**, named one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA history. For over a decade, Verne has offered TLU alums, friends and sports fans in general the opportunity to meet nationally recognized sports personalities. The event benefits the athletic program of TLU, a university of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. **Pastor Karl & Sharon Gronberg**, along with son **Joel Gronberg**, a Texas Lutheran University graduate and member of the Board of Regents, invite Gethsemane members interested in athletics and the mission of Texas Lutheran University to speak with Pastor for more details.

GIVING RECORD FOR 2015

Thank you Gethsemane members for faithful giving during 2015. If you would like a copy of your giving record for 2015, email the church office, info@gethsemaneAustin.org and your statement will be sent to you via email. *God's work. Our hands.*

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MINISTERS: EVERY MEMBER OF GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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"CALLED BY GRACE, LED BY FAITH,
WELCOMING ALL TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE."

ALL ARE WELCOME SUNDAY JAN. 31 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING-FEB. 7 SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES FEB. 9 ASH WEDNESDAY FEB. 10

REGISTER TODAY FOR 34th ANNUAL RETREAT

All are invited to the 34th annual retreat February 27-28, 2016. The theme of this year's retreat, "Under the Shadow of Your Wings" Psalm 63:7. This is a very special opportunity for friends and all members of the congregational family: singles, couples, those with and without children, from the very young to the not so young in years, but all young in spirit. Everyone is invited to come to a relaxed informal time to share thoughts, histories, dreams, conversations, laughter, songs, the bread and wine of communion, the fresh air of the hill country, and good food. You may climb to the cross on the mountain, read your Bibles, play, eat, visit, and rock on the porch. We will meet new friends and have time to relax and be with those we may not know so well. This is a great event to invite friends to share in the family life of Gethsemane. We desire God's presence to add meaning and aliveness to all our days. May this weekend be a time of renewal for you. Camp Chrysalis is a beautiful setting for us to come away and meet one another and God in a wonderful way. Registration forms are in the narthex.

2016 LUTHERAN LEGISLATIVE EVENT

The 2016 Lutheran Legislative Event to be held at Gethsemane on February 28-March 1. This event will update participants on current status of critical issues in Texas: education, water, criminal justice, immigration, healthcare & payday lending. It will provide advocacy training including legislative visits at the Capitol. This program is

planned by Texas Impact and sponsored by Poverty & Justice Task Force of ELCA SWT Synod. Online registration is open on the Synod website at www.swtsynod.org/synodevents.

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD

Thanks to those having served: **Denise Schulz, chair, and co-chairs: Jimmy & Adelle Buehring, Amanda Holmstrom, Glenda Holmstrom, Louise Eidbo, Anne Roefer, Ken & Linda Schulz, Terry Neal and Tony & Sharon Venza.** January Altar/Chancel flowers given to the Glory of the Triune God: in honor of our grandmother and great-grandmother, **Minnie Pihlgren's** 100th birthday by **Scott, Leslie, Robert and Michael Mount**; in loving memory of **Ed Hall** by **Viola**; in gratitude for the ministry of **Gethsemane Lutheran** to our family by **Jiwoh & Isatu Manja Kargbo Abdulai, Yeani Jennifer Mary & Hali Kona Josephine**; in honor of **Katrina Malin** and in celebration of her 17th birthday by **Ken, Belinda, Ross, Harley and Denver**; in loving memory of **Inez Rice** by the **January Altar Guild**; in celebration of our 25th wedding anniversary by **Ken & Belinda Malin**; in honor of **Marilyn's** 65th birthday by the **Kettelman family**; in honor of **Kathy's** 62nd birthday by the **Jurgens family**.

GETHSEMANE PEOPLE NEWS

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: the families of **John Whitcomb, Pauline May Jones, Glenn Courtright**-May the Epiphany light bring gifts of comfort and promise;...**THANKS TO: Stephen & Jane Greinert** for loading, transporting, unloading food from **Capital Area Food Bank** for the **Gethsemane Food Pantry**; **Rev. Donald**

E. Brewington, Rev. Marcus Jones, Huston-Tillotson University, for participation in the annual Gethsemane Lutheran Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; Gethsemane youth for their commitment to justice and social diversity by walking in the **Annual MLK, Jr. walk**; **Juan DeKruyff**, Immigration and Nationality Law Attorney, for assistance with refugee ministry; **Bobby Sommerfeld, Keith Jordan** Pro Automotive and Body, for repairing and maintenance of the Gethsemane van; The **Raymund Kuenast family** for the new Ministry House basketball hoop; **Marilyn & Gordon Kettelman** and all who helped prepare, serve and cleanup the Winter Midweek meals...**THANKS FROM: Brian Coombs** and family for Gethsemane support of Brian's **Boy Scouts of America Eagle Project**. Brian will receive his Eagle on Saturday, January 30th. Gethsemane is proud of this fine young man; **Bishop Moses Kobba Momoh**, Lutheran Church of Sierra Leone, for gifts from Gethsemane and Trinity Lutheran of Ft. Worth; **Kileen Freitag, Edith Rodgers, Gat Rodgers, Erik Strom, Debbie Mason, Stanley & Verline Berkman, Alton & Sandy Jones, Mable Collins, Ursula Pries, Max Helsel, Bobby & Frances Sommerfeld, Renee Giroux & Keith Jordan** for congregational prayers, cards, hospitality, altar/chancel flowers, hospital, birthday, pastoral calls ministry; Tuesday morning **Senior Men's Basketball** "hoopsters" for Gethsemane hospitality; **Austin Humane Society** for Gethsemane support of their **Annual Puppy Bowl**, Saturday, February 6th, 12 noon-2 p.m.; **Vanessa Vela, Capital Area Food Bank of Texas** for Gethsemane commitment to feeding the hungry.

GETHSEMANE CALENDAR

SATURDAY, January 30

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31—EPIPHANY 4

8:15 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
7:30 p.m. Theology on Tap

MONDAY, February 1

7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (M-F)
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)

TUESDAY, February 2

9:30 a.m. GWELCA Quilting. Music Room
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
6:30 p.m. Mopar Muscle Car Club (MR)

WEDNESDAY, February 3

11:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (Parlor)
12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup (MPR)
6:15 p.m. Classes and Activities for all ages
7:15 p.m. Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
7:30 p.m. Mentors & Confirmands
7:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (MR)

THURSDAY, February 4

6:30 p.m. English as Second Language (MH)
7:00 p.m. Ostomy Association of Austin (MR)

FRIDAY, February 5

9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)

SATURDAY, February 6

9:00 a.m. Altar Guild
10:00 a.m. Godly Play Guild (Music Room)
10:00 a.m. GLCM meeting (Parlor)
12 Noon Austin Humane Society-Annual Puppy Bowl Adoption Event

SUNDAY, February 7

Transfiguration of Our Lord

ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL SUNDAY Fair Trade products available in narthex

8:15 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Epiphany Eucharist

MONDAY, Jan. 8

7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (M-F)
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)

TUESDAY, February 9—Shrove Tuesday

9:30 a.m. GWELCA Mary/Martha (MR)
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
5:30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancakes (MPR)

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 10—Ash Wednesday

7-8 a.m. Imposition of Ashes
11:30 a.m.-noon Imposition of Ashes
12 noon Eucharist (Sanctuary)
5:30-7 p.m. Imposition of Ashes
7:00 p.m. Eucharist (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, February 11

9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
6:30 p.m. English as Second Language

FRIDAY, February 12

7:00 p.m. Scandinavian Club (MPR)
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)

SATURDAY, February 13

SUNDAY, February 14—Lent 1

St. Valentine's Day

8:15 a.m. Lenten Worship
9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
10:30 a.m. Lenten Worship
12 noon Valentine's Day Luncheon

MONDAY, February 15

8:00 a.m. GLCM Staff Training (Parlor)
6:30 p.m. Square Dancing (Multi-Purpose Rm)

TUESDAY, February 16

7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Children's Ministry (Tu-F)
1:30-3:45 p.m. Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
7:30 p.m. OCD (Music Room)

WEDNESDAY, February 17

LENTEN WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK CONNECTIONS

February 17—March 16, 2016

11:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (Parlor)
12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup (MPR)
6:15 p.m. Conversation with Pastor Gronberg, confirmation, English as a Second Language, conversational Spanish and Youth activities for PreK-12th grade
7:00 p.m. Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
7:30 p.m. Mentors & Confirmands
7:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (MR)

THURSDAY, February 18

9:00 a.m. Men-in-Mission Mtg/Tour (MR)

5:00 p.m. GLCM Staff Meeting (Parlor)

6:30 p.m. English as Second Language

FRIDAY, February 19

9:00 a.m. GLCM Chapel (Narthex)

7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Music Rm)

SATURDAY, February 20

9:00 a.m. Ostomy Visitor Training (Music Rm)